

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for establishing a distance between a test head having test head electrical contacts and a peripheral having peripheral electrical contacts, comprising

a frame which is coupled to one of said test head and said peripheral and which is detachably coupled to the other of said test head and said peripheral; and

a plurality of linear units for causing adjustable movement of said frame towards or away from a docking surface of said one of said test head and said peripheral to change said distance,

an actuating member which, when actuated, causes actuation of said plurality of linear units to cause said adjustable movement of said frame,

said frame preventing said test head and said peripheral from being closer to each other than said distance,

wherein, at said distance, said test head electrical contacts and said peripheral communicate electrical contacts are in contact with each other.

2. (Original) Apparatus for establishing a distance between a test head and a peripheral according to claim 1, wherein said one of said test head and said peripheral is coupled to alignment features for docking said one of said test head and said peripheral with said other of said test head and peripheral.

3. (Original) Apparatus for establishing a distance between a test head and a peripheral according to claim 1, wherein said linear unit includes one of a male and female threaded member attached to the other of said test head and peripheral.

4. (Original) Apparatus for establishing a distance between a test head and a peripheral according to claim 3, wherein said frame includes the other of said male and said female member threaded member.

5. (Original) Apparatus for establishing a distance between a test head and a peripheral according to claim 3, wherein said one of said male and female threaded member is rotated in order to move said frame towards or away from said docking surface of the other of said test head and said peripheral.

6. (Original) Apparatus for establishing a distance between a test head and a peripheral according to claim 4, wherein the other of said male and female member is rotated in order to move said frame towards or away from said docking surface of the other of said test head and said peripheral.

7. (Original) Apparatus for establishing a distance between a test head and a peripheral according to claim 1, wherein said linear unit is coupled to a detent plate having a detent, said detent plate is coupled to the other of said test head and said peripheral, a lever is coupled to said frame, and said lever engages said detent to indicate said frame is in an intended position relative to the other of said test head and said peripheral.

8. (Original) Apparatus of claim 1, wherein said linear unit is one of a plurality of linear units for moving said frame.

9. (Original) Apparatus of claim 7, wherein said detent is one of a plurality of detents for indicating a respective plurality of intended positions of said frame relative to the other of said test head and said peripheral.

10. (Original) Apparatus of claim 8, wherein a crank is rotated to cause said plurality of linear units to move said frame.

11. (Original) Apparatus of claim 1, wherein said docking surface is between said frame and said one of said test head and said peripheral.

12. (Currently Amended) Method for establishing a distance between a test head having test head electrical contacts and a peripheral having peripheral electrical contacts, comprising:

providing a frame which is coupled to one of said test head and said peripheral is docked and which is detached from the other of said test head and said peripheral; and

actuating a plurality of actuators to adjust said frame towards or away from a docking surface of said one of said test head and said peripheral to change said distance,

wherein said frame prevents said test head and said peripheral from being closer to each other than said distance, and, at said distance, said test head electrical contacts and said peripheral ~~communicate~~ electrical contacts are in contact with each other.

13. (Original) Method according to claim 12, wherein said one of said test head and said peripheral is coupled to alignment features for docking said one of said test head and said peripheral with said other of said test head and peripheral.

14. (Original) Method according to claim 12, wherein said linear unit is one of a male and female threaded member attached to the other of said test head and peripheral.

15. (Original) Method according to claim 14, wherein said frame includes the other of said male and said female member threaded member.

16. (Original) Method according to claim 14, wherein said one of said male and female threaded member is rotated in order to move said frame towards or away from said docking surface of the other of said test head and said peripheral.

17. (Original) Method according to claim 15, wherein the other of said male and female member is rotated in order to move said frame towards or away from said docking surface of the other of said test head and said peripheral.

18. (Original) Method according to claim 12, wherein said linear unit is coupled to a detent plate having a detent, said detent plate is coupled to the other of said test head and said peripheral, a lever is coupled to said frame, and said lever engages said detent to indicate said frame is in an intended position relative to the other of said test head and said peripheral.

19. (Original) Method according to claim 12, wherein said linear unit is one of a plurality of linear units for moving said frame.

20. (Original) Method according to claim 19, wherein a crank is rotated to cause said plurality of linear units to move said frame.

21. (Original) Method according to claim 12, wherein said docking surface is between said frame and said one of said test head and said peripheral.

22. (Original) Method according to claim 18, wherein said detent is one of a plurality of detents for indicating a respective plurality of intended positions of said frame relative to the other of said test head and said peripheral.

23. (New) Apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an alignment feature coupled to one of said frame and said peripheral; and

a guide coupled to the other of said frame and said peripheral;

said guide and said alignment feature are separated prior to said adjustable movement of said frame;

said guide engaging said alignment feature at said distance.

24. (New) Method according to claim 12, said method further comprising the steps of:

providing an alignment feature coupled to one of said frame and said peripheral;

providing a guide coupled to the other of said frame and said peripheral so that said guide and said alignment feature are separated prior to said adjustable movement of said frame; and

allowing said guide to engage said alignment feature at said distance.